

REMARKS

Status of the Application

Claims 1-7 are the claims that have been examined in the pending application. Claims 1 and 3-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Pomerantz (U.S. Patent No. 3,190,954). Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Coucoulas (U.S. Patent No. 5,178,319). Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Shoji (U.S. Patent No. 3,686,545). Claims 1 and 3-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Dautartas et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,582,548 B1).

By this Amendment, Applicants are amending claims 1-7, and adding claims 8-14.

Preliminary Matters

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging the Applicants' claim to foreign priority and confirming that the certified copy of the priority document have been received in the National Stage Application.

Applicants also thank the Examiner for considering and initialing the references filed with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on April 27, 2005 and accepting the drawings filed on April 27, 2005.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

A. *Claims 1 and 3-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Pomerantz (U.S. Patent No. 3,190,954).*

Claim 1, as amended, recites in part: "wherein the bonded element is plate shaped." The Examiner asserts that Pomerantz discloses all of the element of claim 1. Applicants respectfully disagree. Pomerantz discloses that the bonded element is a wire, and is therefore cylindrically

shaped. See FIGS. 1 and 2 of Pomerantz. Therefore, Pomerantz fails to disclose all of the elements of amended claim 1. Claim 1, as amended, is patentable over the applied art.

Claims 3-6 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 1.

B. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Coucoulas (U.S. Patent No. 5,178,319).

Claim 1, as amended, is patentable over the applied art because Coucoulas, like Pomerantz, discloses only a sphere or cylindrical shape for the bonded element. See FIGS. 1-4 of Coucoulas. Therefore, claim 1 is patentable over the applied art because Coucoulas fails to disclose the plate shaped bonded element as recited in amended claim 1.

Amended claim 2 recites “wherein the first plurality of metal bonding film shapes are spaced apart from each other.” Coucoulas fails to show that the metal bonding film shapes are spaced from each other; as the metal bonding film is shown only as a solid mass. See elements 13, 24, and 33 in FIGS. 1-3, respectively. Therefore, claim 2 is patentable over the applied art.

Claims 3-7 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 1. Claims 9-14 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 2.

C. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Shoji (U.S. Patent No. 3,686,545).

Amended claim 1 is patentable over Shoji. Shoji, as with Pomerantz, fails to disclose that the bonded element may be plate shaped, only disclosing a cylindrical shape. See FIGS. 2-4 of Shoji. Therefore, amended claim 1 is patentable over the applied art. Claims 3-6 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 1.

Amended claim 2 is also patentable over Shoji. Similar to Coucoulas, Shoji discloses the metal bonding film as being a single solid mass, not a plurality of shapes in a pattern wherein the shapes are spaced apart from one another. See element 13 of FIG. 3. Therefore, amended claim 2 is patentable over the applied art. Claims 9-14 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 2.

D. Claims 1 and 3-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Dautartas et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,582,548 B1).

Amended claim 1 is patentable over Dautartas. Dautartas fails to disclose that the bonded element may be plate shaped, only disclosing a cylindrical shape for the bonded element. See FIGS. 3-6 of Dautartas. Therefore, amended claim 1 is patentable over the applied art. Claims 3-7 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 1.

New Claims

Applicants are adding claims 8-14. These claims are dependent from either claims 1 or 2, and are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency therefrom.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 10/532,965

Attorney Docket No. Q87567

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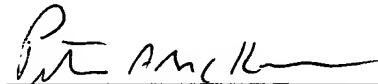
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